

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-20 remain pending.

Applicants submit herewith the following documents which the Examiner has informed the undersigned have not been placed in the record despite having been attached to papers earlier filed:

- (1) Declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 submitted with applicants' Supplemental Response of July 23, 2004; and
- (2) Form PTO-1449 submitted with applicants' Information Disclosure Statement of July 7, 2004.

The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and an early indication of same is earnestly solicited.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact James W. Hellwege (Reg. No. 28,808) at (703) 205-8000 to discuss such matters.

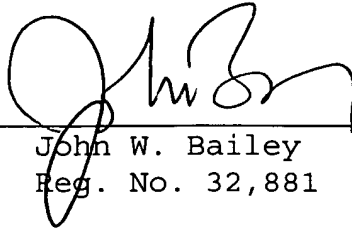
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any

additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17;
particularly, extension of time fees.

Very truly yours,


BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By



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JWB/JWH

Attachments: Declaration under 37 CFR 1.132
Form PTO-1449